

State of Illinois JB Pritzker, Governor









Illinois Department of Transportation

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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Closure of Grand Avenue east of Skokie Highway

CHICAGO – The Illinois Department of Transportation announced today that as part of ongoing improvements on Grand Avenue (Illinois 132) between Skokie Highway (U.S. 41) and Waveland Avenue, in Gurnee, a full closure will take place on Grand Avenue beginning, weather permitting, Tuesday, Dec. 1. The closure is necessary to demolish the Union Pacific Railroad temporary bridge.

Starting at 7 p.m., Tuesday, Dec. 1, Grand Avenue will be fully closed at the railroad bridge, located just east of Skokie Highway, until 5 a.m. Monday, Dec. 7, weather permitting. A detour will direct traffic to Skokie Highway, Washington Street and Green Bay Road (Illinois 131).

In addition, temporary pavement will be constructed between Skokie Highway and Waveland Avenue. Beginning the week of Dec. 7 until early spring, Grand Avenue will be two lanes in each direction. Early in the spring, Grand Avenue will return to one lane in each direction between Skokie Highway and Waveland Avenue to accommodate work.

As work is ongoing, motorists can also expect periodic daytime lane closures. During this time, motorists should continue to anticipate occasional delays and allow extra time for trips through this area. Drivers are urged to pay close attention to flaggers and signs in the work zones, obey the posted speed limits and be on the alert for workers and equipment.

The overall project consists of removal and replacement of the Union Pacific Railroad bridge, new sidewalks, curbs, retaining walls and storm sewers. It also includes widening on Grand Avenue, as well as widening of the southbound U.S. 41 ramp and is anticipated to be completed in summer 2021.

Over the next six years, IDOT is planning to improve more than 3,300 miles of highway and 8.4 million square feet of bridge deck as part of the Rebuild Illinois capital program, which is investing \$33.2 billion into all modes of transportation. Year One included approximately \$2.7 billion of improvements statewide on 1,706 miles of highway, 128 bridges and 228 additional safety improvements.

For more information on IDOT projects, click <u>here</u>. Find traffic and road conditions at <u>www.gettingaroundillinois.com</u>. You also can follow IDOT on <u>Facebook</u> and <u>Twitter</u>.

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